

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

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DRAFTED BY NEA/ARP:FMDICKMAN:EI

APPROVED BY NEA:ALATHERTON,JR.

NEA/EGY:GBEYER

S/S -O:PJOHNSON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

S E C R E T STATE 271494

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CPRS, YS, EG, LE

SUBJECT: IMPRISONMENT IN ADEN OF NCR EMPLOYEE VICTOR DICK

REF: CAIRO 11562

1. WE APPRECIATE REASONS GIVEN IN REFTEL WHY EGYPTIANS MAY NOT WANT TO GET THEMSELVES INVOLVED IN VICTOR DICK CASE AND WE DO NOT RPT NOT WANT TO IMPLY TO GOE THAT THIS MATTER IS DIRECTLY RELATED TO POSSIBLE CHANGE IN POLITICAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN U.S. AND PDRY. WE DO WISH, HOWEVER, TO TRY EVERY REASONABLE POSSIBLE APPROACH TO SECURE DICK'S RELEASE FOR HUMANITARIAN REASONS.

2. FOR LATTER REASON ONLY, WE WOULD LIKE YOU TO TAKE UP THE VICTOR DICK CASE WITH MARWAN, AS YOU HAVE OFFERED TO DO, EXPLAINING THAT DICK IS A LONG-TIME EMPLOYEE OF NCR AND THAT THIS AMERICAN COMPANY HAS FELT ALL ALONG THAT IT HAD STRONG MORAL OBLIGATION TO DO WHATEVER IT COULD TO TRY AND GAIN HIS RELEASE. WE BELIEVE FACT THAT DICK WAS EMPLOYED BY AN AMERICAN COMPANY WAS PROBABLY AN IMPORTANT FACTOR IN

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HIS IMPRISONMENT. YOU MAY ALSO TELL MARWAN THAT PRESIDENT

OF NCR HAS APPROACHED HIGH LEVELS IN DEPARTMENT ON SEVERAL
OCCASIONS. ALTHOUGH NCR HAS NO KNOWLEDGE OF BACKGROUND
LEADING TO RELEASE OF TORHAN AND KOPP, COMPANY IS AWARE

THAT PDRY FREED THEM; SINCE THEIR RELEASE, NCR HAS BEEN
HOPEFUL THAT USG MIGHT SOMEHOW BE ABLE TO GAIN DICK'S
RELEASE EVEN THOUGH IT RECOGNIZES THAT DICK NOT A U.S.
CITIZEN. COMPANY HAS ALSO BEEN IN TOUCH WITH LEBANESE
GOVERNMENT BUT FEELS LATTER IN NO POSITION AT THIS TIME
TO ACTIVELY PURSUE THIS CASE. YOU MAY WISH TO ASK MARWAN,
THEREFORE, IF HE THINKS DICK'S RELEASE COULD BE EXPLORED
WITH PDRY PURELY AS A HUMANITARIAN GESTURE. INGERSOLL

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